

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-13 AID-05 TRSE-00 CU-02 EB-07 COME-00

OMB-01 /084 W

-----161556Z 093750 /45

P 160945Z JUN 77

FM AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6219

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE JOHANNESBURG 1534

CAPE TOWN ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, EGEN, SF

SUBJECT: MAYOR OF JOHANNESBURG COMMENTS ON EVE OF SOWETO ANIVERSARY

1. UNITED PARTY MAYOR OF JOHANNESBURG (COUNCILOR) MARTIN POWELL, ADDRESSED THE EXECUTIVES' ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AFRICAN (EXAS) LUNCHEON TODAY (JUNE 15) ON THE THEME: "METROPOLITAN JOHANNESBURG."

2. THE MAYOR EXPLAINED TO THE MORE THAN 300 ASSEMBLED MEMBERS AND GUESTS THAT HE HAD DELIERATELY CHOSEN THIS THEME FOR HIS ADDRESS (WHICH HE INFORMED THEM IS ALSO THE THEME FOR HIS ONE YEAR TERM OF OFFICE) BECAUSE OF THE NEED FOR EACH AND EVERY BUSINESS EXECUTIVE AND CITIZEN OF JOHANNESBURG TO RECOGNIZE THE COLORED, BLACKS, INDIANS, CHINESE AND OTHER ETHENIC GROUPS AS PART OF QUOTE METROPOLITAN JOHANNESBURG - ONE CITY, IF YOU WILL, AND THAT ALL MEMBERS OF THE METROPOLITAN AREA PROVIDED IN THE PAST AND CONTINUE TO PROVIDE AN INVALUABLE CONTRIBUTION TO THE INDUSTRY, COMMERCE, CULTURAL LIFE AND PROSPERITY OF THIS CITY.

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UNQUOTE.

3. THE MAJOR EXPLAINED THAT EACH BUSINESSMAN MUST BE WILLING TO MEET THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE "METROPOLITAN AREA" ON THEIR OWN GROUNDS; WORK WITH THEM, ATTEMPT TO UNDERSTAND THEM AND THEIR INVALUABLE CONTRIBUTION TO THE LIFE OF THIS CITY.

4. COMMENT: EXAS IS AN ASSOCIATION OF BUSINESS EXECUTIVES (AFRIKANER INCLUDED) EACH OF WHOM REPRESENTS HIS RESPECTIVE BANK, INDUSTRY OR FIRM AT THE MANAGEMENT LEVEL. THESE ARE INFLUENTIAL OFFICERS IN THE JOHANNESBURG BUSINESS COMMUNITY, MANY REPRESENTING OVERSEAS PRINCIPALS AS CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND AS SUBSTANTIAL EMPLOYERS. THEIR INFLUENCE IS FELT FAR AND WIDE IN THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY. IN AN AFTER ADDRESS CONVERSATION WITH CONGEN OFFICER, THE MAYOR SAID THAT HE WAS CAUTIOUSLY OPTIMISTIC ABOUT A PEACEFUL ANNIVERSARY; HE SAID THAT HE WAS CONCERNED (AS WAS THE ADMINISTRATION) BUT NOT WORRIED. THE CONSENSUS OF THE BUSINESS EXECUTIVES TO THE CONGEN OFFICER ATTENDING THE LUNCH IS THAT BLACKS NOT ABLE TO BE AT WORK WOULD NOT BE DOCKED NON-ATTENDANCE FROM THEIR PAY. KIRBY

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Message Attributes

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